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# Welcome to Quinn's AI Update

Issue #12, November 2023

Hello, AI enthusiasts!

Welcome to another Quinn's AI Update Newsletter. As usual, there has been a lot going on in AI and we're going to get into it.

But first: I got an email from a subscriber and he asked if I could explain some of the ideas in the newsletter on a deeper level, explaining even why I think they're important enough to cover here.

I've had others tell me they like the quick takes I provide and the links they can use to follow up. I think what I will do is go deeper on one article in each newsletter—tell me how you like it.

Quick reminder: check out my blog at [quinnaiupdate.com](http://quinnaiupdate.com). I'll often post things there before the next newsletter comes out. And, as always, let me know what you think!

And with that said, lets get into it—it's another two weeks of lightning-fast progress in AI.

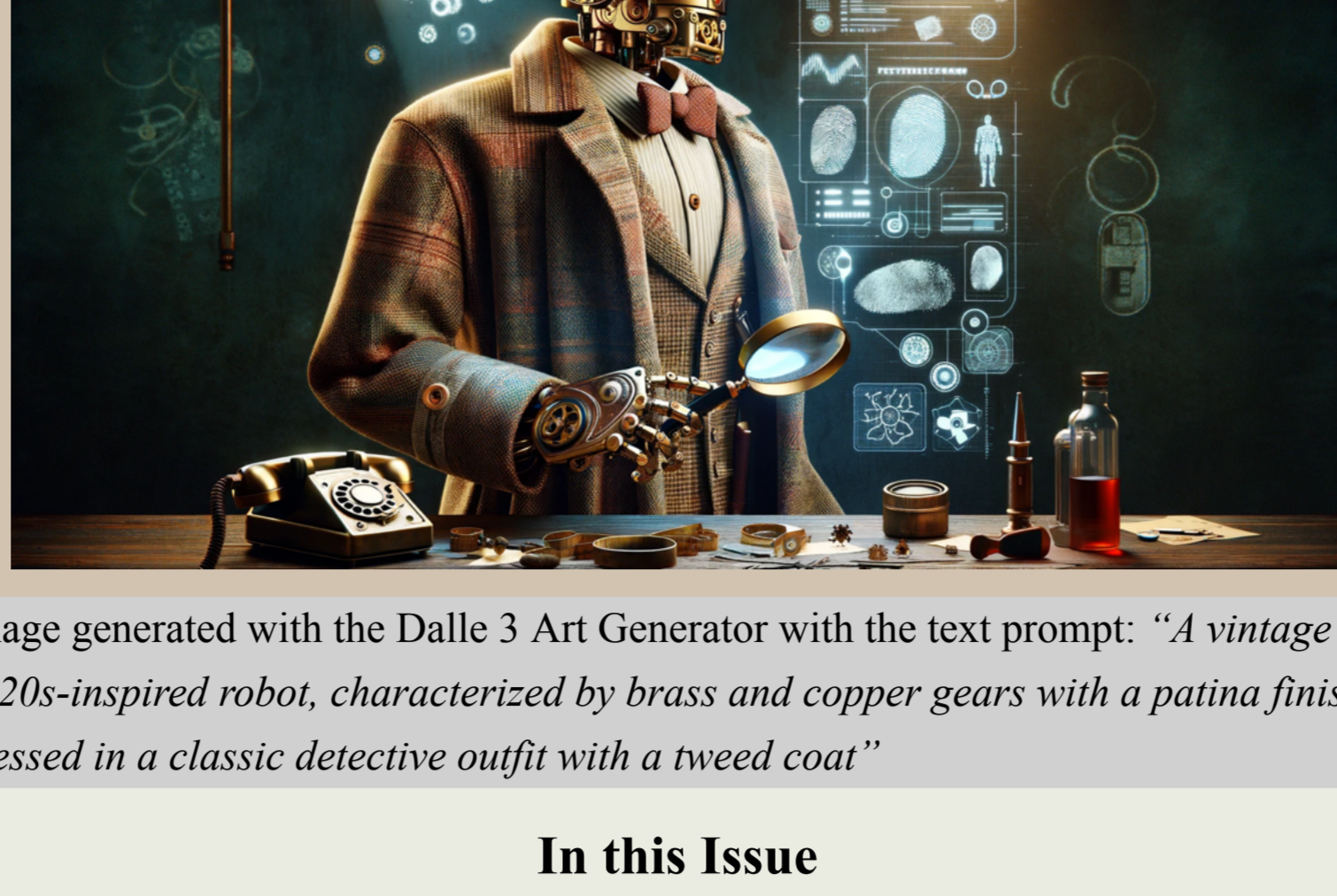


Image generated with the Dalle 3 Art Generator with the text prompt: "A vintage 1920s-inspired robot, characterized by brass and copper gears with a patina finish, dressed in a classic detective outfit with a tweed coat"

## In this Issue

Here's the amazing stuff going on in AI the last two weeks:

- First: Randy explains Why
- Here comes ChatGPT 4 Turbo!
- AI swarms are coming
- A Deeper Dive on the Recent ChatGPT 4 Turbo Announcements
- Elon Musk announces his AI named "Grok"
- A list of newsletters and YouTube Channels on AI you might want to check out

## Why This Newsletter Exists

So lets start with why I think this topic of artificial intelligence is so important. I believe AI is a revolution that is about to radically change our world. Starting right now. And it won't take 50 or 100 years—it will take 5 to 10.

Life comes at you fast—AI comes faster.

The reason I produce this newsletter is to help the average person understand what's coming down the pike. In my opinion, AI will upend people's lives, first through making us much more productive in our jobs, then by doing jobs better and cheaper than humans can, which could lead to large scale unemployment.

Some think there will be other jobs created for humans to do—if so, I want my subscribers to have a head start on skilling up for those new jobs.

Take self-driving cars for example. If they just take over taxi drivers jobs in the US, that's nearly 300,000 jobs. Uber and Lyft are estimated to have 1.7 million drivers. Add in truck driving, and you make another 3.5 million human drivers obsolete.

Now imagine how many other jobs are taken over by artificial intelligence. Should they just learn to code? It's estimated that, currently, 40% of software code on the code sharing site HuggingFace is written by AI. I have heard anecdotal information on senior software engineers being laid off and replaced by junior software engineers using AI. One prediction is there will be no need for human software coders in 5 years.

Another concern I have is for normal human interactions.

We've already seen the effect of so-called "AI Girlfriends." Right now, they amount to a simple chatbot that interacts through a text interface. Here's an example of a 23-year-old [Snapchat influencer](#) who used OpenAI's technology to create an A.I. version of herself that will be your girlfriend for \$1 per minute.

Now imagine when the AI Girlfriend can talk to you and hold a conversation with you on your phone. This is similar to the plot of the movie "Her" starring Joaquin Phoenix and Scarlet Johansson. Now imagine that AI is embodied in a robot body. And those robot bodies become more and more lifelike. Now the [Futurama PSA](#) on why you should not date a "Marylin Monrobot" really makes you think.

If you thought social media was bad for human relationships, AI girlfriends are saying "Hold my beer."

To sum up, my reason for doing this newsletter is to help anyone—especially non-technical folks—understand the potential for AI. And not to frighten anyone—but to wake you up and get you in the game. The more minds we have thinking about this, the better our future will be.

## ChatGPT-4 Turbo Announcements

Recently, at the inaugural ChatGPT Developers' meeting, OpenAI CEO Sam Altman announced another set of amazing capabilities for the next version of his AI, now dubbed "ChatGPT-4 Turbo."

Among these advances are:

- ChatGPT-4 Turbo is now trained on data up to April 2023 (it was September 2021 previously)
- It's context window—the length of the prompt and data you can upload in one go—has been increased by a factor of 4. You can now upload an average sized novel of 300 pages.
- OpenAI is promising to defend its clients against copyright lawsuits—particularly helpful if you generate art that is too close to a human artist's style
- You can create your own GPT "agent" to be an expert on anything *without knowing a lick of code*.
- For more, click [here](#) for the video of Altman's presentation.

## GPT4 Turbo Will Swarm

With OpenAI's recent announcement of GPT-4 Turbo they are also launching a host of other enhancements and services. One of these will be enabling users to create their own [GPTs](#) and sell them on a GPT App Store. This is a significant step towards creating our own AI agents that can carry out tasks on our behalf and/or sell them on a GPT App Store.

Now, through the use of Application Program Interfaces (APIs) an agent will be able to directly interact with other agents or other software programs in a digital space. So an AI agent will be able to interact with a "swarm" of other agents to solve problems. So different agents working on different parts of a problem will work together to solve even bigger problem. This includes agents that are responsible for controlling other agents and agents which will be able to *actually create other agents*.

Here's [David Shapiro](#), a software engineer and Youtube "explainer of AI" talking about this. This is similar, by the way, to MIT professor and AI pioneer Marvin Minsky's thinking of how a human mind works that he describes in his 1986 book "Society of Mind."

*"It is somewhat of the magic genie problem, where if you have a magic genie that can grant all the wishes, usually those stories don't end well. Be careful what you wish for, including wishes."*  
—Elon Musk in conversation with British prime minister Rishi Sunak

## ChatGPT-4 Turbo: The Deep Dive

So why is ChatGPT-4 Turbo important?

1. It shows the continued speed with which AI technology is changing. This is a "gold rush" and the AI companies are out to grab as much real estate as possible.
2. These new advances continue to supplement and enhance our capabilities in our jobs. And the ability of ChatGPT-4 Turbo to take in more information not only in the form of text but now in the form of images, audio and video means we can interact even more seamlessly and effortlessly with it.
3. Giving the keys to GPT development to coders around the world truly unleashes all the power of ChatGPT in ways we cannot predict. Second, third and fourth order consequences are not something that we humans find easy to calculate or envision. Now imagine that agents developed for one capability, to solve one problem, are unexpectedly combined with others to solve a completely different problem. Now the genie is truly out of the bottle.
4. It shows Altman's desire to leave all competing AI offerings in the dust as this news dwarfs what competitors like Google, Apple and Anthropic have announced and steps all over Elon Musk's launch of his AI named "Grok." The marketer in me appreciates the 4-D chess going on here.

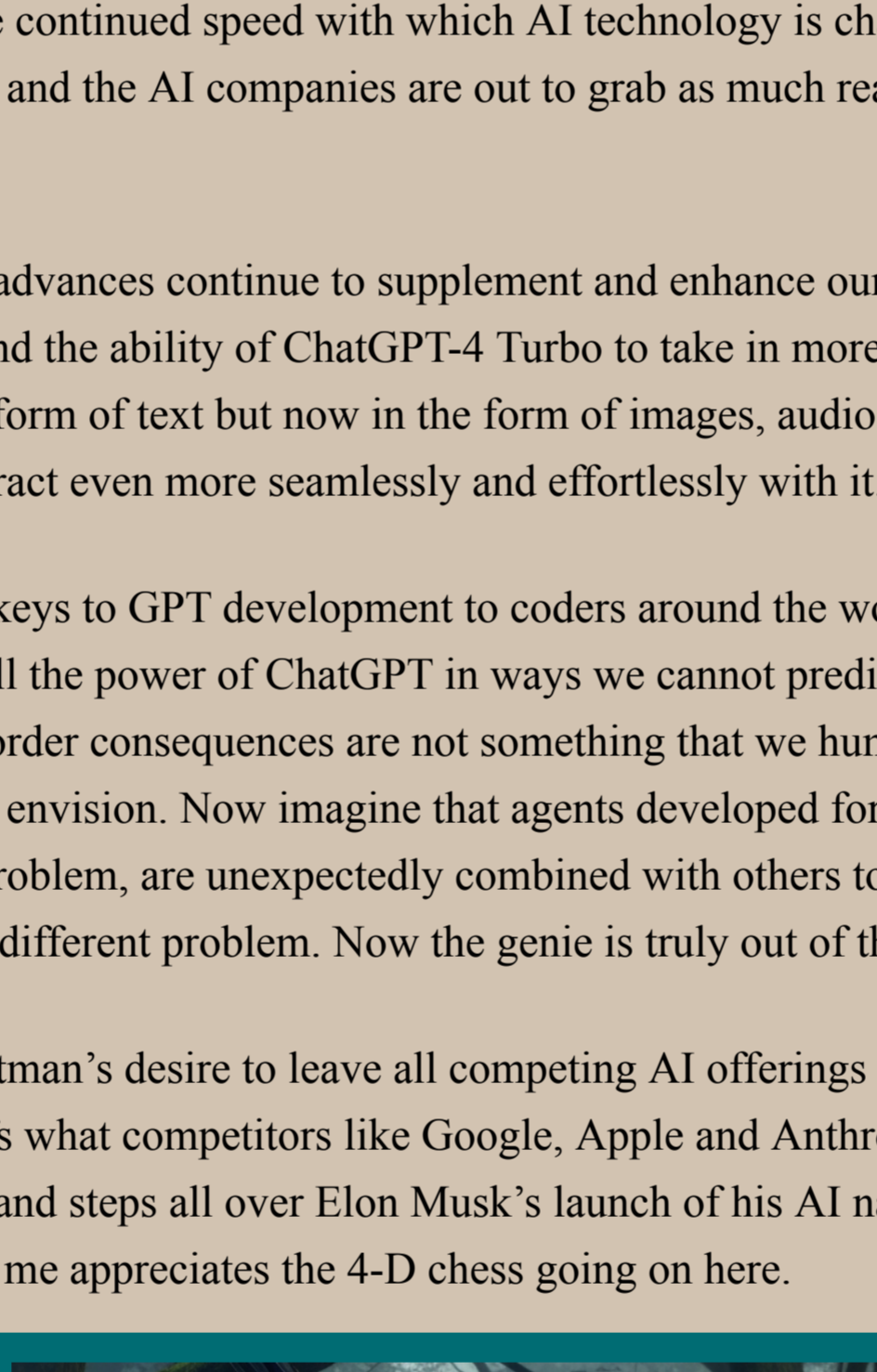


Image generated with the Leonardo AI Art Generator and the text prompt: "A cybernetic owl with intricate gears and glowing eyes"

## Elon Can Grok

Elon Musk is playing catchup to OpenAI's ChatGPT and he recently announced his AI will be ready for it's closeup soon. [Here's](#) an article in Wired Magazine about it.

Musk calls his AI "Grok" and those who have interacted with it have commented that it's sort of like talking with a friend in college about life, the universe and everything *while stoned*. [Here](#) is a video of Musk talking with podcaster and MIT scientist Lex Fridman about Grok.

(All of this is simply more evidence confirming my suspicion that we are living in a simulation of SF writer Robert A. Heinlein's "Crazy Years." "Grok", a word invented in Heinlein's award winning novel "Stranger in a Strange Land", means to understand things at the deepest level—so I guess we get a sense of what Elon wants his AI to be able to do.)

*"There is a stage at which regulations can stifle some of the innovation [that AI might advance]. ... There is a role for providing a safe harbor [from certain regulations] so that we can use our best data to improve our patients' care."*  
—Vincent Liu, MD, senior research scientist and regional medical director of augmented clinical intelligence at Kaiser Permanente

## Other AI Newsletters and Youtube Channels to Consider

"**Superhuman**" and "**The Rundown AI**" are two newsletters I receive everyday that are chock full of helpful hints on how to use AI tools to be more productive.

**David Shapiro** and **AI Andy** are two Channels on YouTube that I find a lot of consistently good content explaining AI. Additionally, I like **Liam Ottley** who seems like a young man trying to use AI to build his wealth and make his dent in the universe. You can Google all of these to subscribe.

## What's the Science Fiction Say?

"**Count Zero**" by William Gibson is a cyberpunk novel, a follow-up to "Neuromancer." It's set in a future where big companies are super powerful and technology, especially computers and virtual reality, is everywhere. The story focuses on Bobby Newmark, a young guy who wants to be a great hacker. His first big hacking attempt goes wrong, and he finds himself in a world full of danger and secret computer-related plots. The book is about how too much technology can cause problems and mixes action with ideas about computers and artificial intelligence. Check it out [here](#) on Amazon.

**The Terminator and Terminator 2: Judgment Day**  
"**Terminator 1**" (The Terminator) is a movie about a robot called the Terminator, sent from the future to the present. The Terminator looks like a human and has a mission to find and stop a woman named Sarah Connor. Sarah is going to be the mother of a future leader who fights against machines in a war. A human soldier, Kyle Reese, also comes from the future to protect Sarah. The movie is full of action as Kyle tries to keep Sarah safe from the unstoppable Terminator.

"**Terminator 2: Judgment Day**" is the sequel where a new, more advanced Terminator, the T-1000, comes from the future. This time, it's sent to stop Sarah Connor's son, John Connor, who is now a young boy. John is important because he's going to be a big leader in the future. But, another Terminator, the one that looks like the one from the first movie, is sent to protect John and Sarah. This Terminator is now a good guy. The movie is about their fight to stop the T-1000 and prevent a future where machines take over the world. It's also full of action and cool special effects.

The Terminator films can be streamed on fuboTV, Paramount Plus, Paramount Plus Apple TV Channel, Paramount+ Amazon Channel, Paramount+ Roku Premium Channel, Showtime.

## The Smart Money in AI

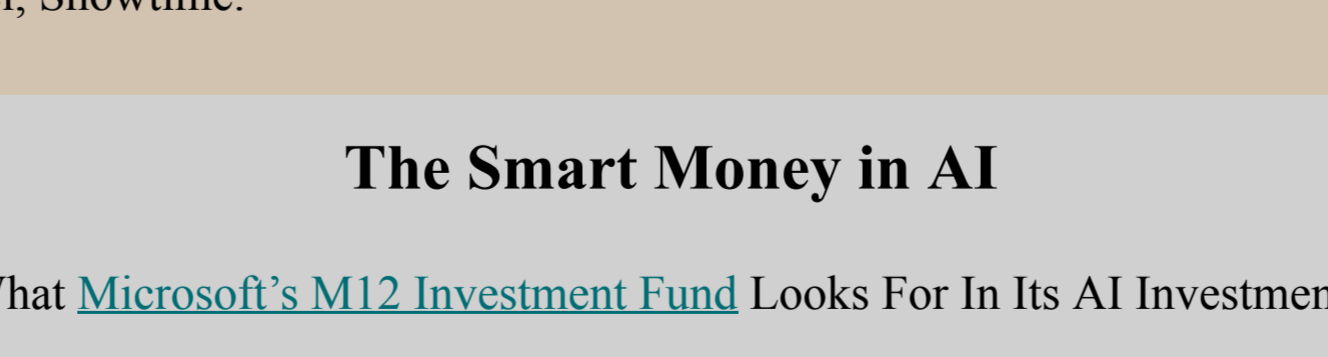
- What [Microsoft's M12 Investment Fund](#) Looks For In Its AI Investments
- Google in talks to [invest](#) in AI startup Character.AI
- IBM [debuts](#) \$500 million enterprise AI venture fund
- The [10 Best AI Companies](#)

## The Last word...for now.

Thanks for reading my newsletter—let me know how I can make it even better!  
Randy

[QuinnAIUpdate@gmail.com](mailto:QuinnAIUpdate@gmail.com)

Let me know what you think!



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